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means of a string, called ya"tcua, which passes about the neck. 224 411

The blow-gun is carried over the shoulder or in the hand, but always with the point forward, since if it were reversed there would be danger of the mouth-piece being broken in passing through the jungle. When not in use the blow-gun is carefully keep in such position that no uneven strain comes upon any part of it, causing it to bend and thus to spoil its efficiency. It is frequently placed in the thatch under the eaves or in the loft of the house, but often it is suspended vertically by means of a string.

The blow-gun is an excellent and effective weapon for hunting all sorts of mammals and birds which live in trees or otherwise above the ground level, but for those which live always upon the ground and for birds on the wing this instrument is of little use, since it is not feasible to shoot horizontally or, in fact, at any considerable angle to the perpendicular, owing to the deflection due to gravity. Especially is this the case if the object shot at is small. The best results are obtained by getting almost directly under the object to be shot at and by this means practically overcoming the influence of gravity. Thus the blow-gun is especially used in shooting those mammals and birds, such as monkeys, squirrels, guatins, parrots, toucans, and a variety of other species, which are almost always to be found in trees.

The Cayapa were at all times inclined to be peaceable, but wars were sometimes forced upon the most peace- 126 721

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177 439 226 227 325

said that when this method of fishing was first introduced through contact with the early Spaniards, crude hooks were fashioned by hammering out pieces of iron.

226 At the present time this method of hook-and-line fishing is so much in vogue that almost every man has his special little canoe and a special short paddle which are used almost exclusively for fishing. It is customary to paddle for some distance against the tide or current and then to fish back down with the current along the bank. In this way little effort is required in paddling, and a sculling motion of the paddle with the left hand is sufficient to keep the canoe in its desired course. With [227] a pole and line go a small, hemispherical, calabash dish of angle-worms, a small bottle-shape basket (pl. XCIII, 3) of grasshoppers, or a calabash of a certain small reddish fruit, all of which are used as bait, each according to the kind of fish sought.

On rare occasions the trot-line, called weñgûtcû'a (?), such as that shown in pl. CXIX, 1, is used. The main line, called señgi'ri, is made usually of the coarser string fiber called by the Spanish term cosadera, while the small "leaders," called simply sañdô'a, to which each separate hook is attached, are made of pita string.

WAR

721 The Cayapa maintain that in ancient times they rarely went to war, and then only on the greatest provocation, as, for instance, when they were harrassed by the former inhabitants of their present domain until forbearance was no longer possible and they descended from their

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old mountain home at Pueblo Viejo and wiped their enemies out of existence.

In the only instance of war which the Cayapa describe fully, it appears that they organized themselves into war-parties and systematically invaded the enemy's territory. Predatory raiding was never practised by them, perhaps on account of their isolated position as well as by reason of their non-militant character.

The lance was the chief weapon used in war, though the bow and arrow seem to have been used to a slight extent in more recent times. The blow-gun with its poisoned dart was also used in war to some extent. It is claimed that the pre-Cayapa inhabitants of this region used throwing-stones with good effect. The sling, however, appears to have been unknown, the stones being simply thrown with the hand.

MANUFACTURES

Canoe-making and Canoeing

The rivers of the Cayapa region provide practically the only means of travel until the limit of navigation by canoe is reached. In fact, the streams provide almost the only means of travel at all, owing to the density of the jungle and to the fact that practically *all of the Cayapa live along the rivers below* the limit of navigation. The few trails through the higher mountains are almost never used except when journeys to the interior are made. On the other hand, there are various short trails extending back into the hills